

**CALLING ALL NATURALISTS AND NATURALIST WANNA-BEs to
"WEDNESDAYS in the WILD"**

**Natural History Talks/Workshops/Field Trips 1-3p.m. or As Noted
JANUARY – MARCH 2010**

- Jan 13th 1-3pm "Winter Animal Tracks & Trails"** ----- indoor/outdoor pgm—**LNC**
*Join **Naturalist Mary Cutler** in learning how to decode the clues animals leave behind in the natural world.
Dress for the weather, as an indoor "how-to" session will be followed by a chance to practice tracking skills outdoors!*
- Jan 20th 1-3pm "Radio Transmitters in Timber Rattlesnakes**
—A Purdue Experience in Bloomington!" ----- indoor pgm—**LNC**
Steve Thompson (Purdue School of Veterinary Medicine) will give a presentation that includes pictures and video of the handling, anesthesia, surgery and tracking of rattlesnakes!
- Jan 27th 1-3pm "Bringing Back the Bluebird"** ----- indoor pgm—**LNC**
Tippecanoe Co. Park & Rec Dept Naturalist Mary Cutler & Property Manager Brenda Moore team up to discuss the natural history of this delightful songbird, with tips & techniques on becoming a "bluebird landlord." Bluebird boxes may be made for a \$15 materials fee. (Limited scholarships available.)
- Feb 3rd 1-3pm "Maple Sugaring at Home"** ----- indoor/outdoor pgm—**LNC**
Don Bickel (Retired Forester) will draw upon his 30 years of experience in maple sugaring to show participants how to get started in this fun pursuit on a small scale. An outdoor demonstration of tree-tapping process follows.
- Feb 10th 1-3pm "Raptors in Rehabilitation and Education"** ----- indoor pgm—**LNC**
Carol Blacketer (Executive Director, Wildcat Wildlife Center) will share the unique challenges that are part of rehabilitating raptors. The role these charismatic birds play in education may be highlighted by a visit from the Wildlife Center's newest feathered ambassadors!
- Feb 17th 1-3pm "Sturgeon Spawning in the Wabash"** ----- indoor pgm—**LNC**
Marisol Sepulveda and Reuben Goforth (Purdue Professors of Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences in FNR) are involved in the big sturgeon project. The basic biology of sturgeon and radio tagging efforts will be discussed.
- Feb 24th 7-9pm "Where Have All the Box Turtles Gone?"** ----- indoor pgm—**LNC**
Purdue graduate students Steve Kimble & Andrea Currylow will provide a natural history overview of this once common turtle, discuss reasons for its decline, and then tell of their diverse turtle research projects.
- Mar 3rd 1-3pm "Outdoor MOSS ID"***** ---**Carpool leaves LNC at 12 noon---** outdoor pgm—**POTHOLES**
Sally Weeks (Purdue dendrologist) will lead this walk. Join in the fun as we explore the amazing Fall Creek Gorge in Warren County. The diversity of mosses is spectacular; some are easy to identify with the naked eye – others are not. We will focus on those easy ones! ****PLEASE NOTE: Rugged terrain; could be slippery.**
- Mar 10th 1-3pm "In Their Own Words:**
Nature Revealed Through the Observations of Lewis & Clark" ----- indoor pgm—**LNC**
*During the Bicentennial Events of Lewis & Clark's epic journey, **Reenactor Rob Durrett** spent 10 months following the course of this historic trek, from St. Louis to the Pacific Ocean. Unique insights will be shared about the natural features, plants, and animals encountered en route, both then and now.*
- Mar 17th 7-9pm "The Habits and Haunts of Local Salamanders"**----- indoor/outdoor pgm—**LNC**
*The fascinating lives of seldom-seen salamanders will be brought to life by **Rick Howard (PU Biology Professor)**. Indoor program will be followed by outdoor search for trapped salamanders & discussion of field research techniques.*
- Mar 24th 7:30-9:30pm "Sounds of Spring—Wacky Woodcocks!"** ----- outdoor pgm—**AMPH**
*Experience this spring ritual with **Naturalist Mary Cutler & members of the Sycamore Audubon Society!**
Dress for the weather and BRING FLASHLIGHTS & BINOCULARS.*
- Mar 31st 1-3pm "Planning with POWER"** ----- indoor pgm—**LNC**
Robert McCormick (Project Leader for Planning with POWER--Protecting Our Water & Environmental Resources) will present an overview of this collaborative program between Ill-Ind Sea Grant & Purdue University, highlighting smart growth initiatives and "Local Decision Maker" tools available through the program.

LOCATIONS of these FREE PROGRAMS which are OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

AMPH (Tipp Co Amphitheater): Meet in parking lot on east side of North River Rd, near Soldiers Home Rd in West Lafayette.
LNC (Lilly Nature Center/Celery Bog Nature Area): On north side of Lindberg Rd, between Northwestern and McCormick in WL.
POTHOLES (Fall Creek Gorge): In Warren County. Limited parking, so join carpool from LNC at 12noon.

FOR MORE INFORMATION or TO HELP WITH PLANNING, contact:

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SPONSORED BY

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Dan Dunten, Stewardship Coordinator, West Lafayette Parks & Rec Dept. — West Central Chapter of INPAWS